

October 18, 1954

Dr. L. J. Wickerham
Agricultural Research Service
Product Utilization Laboratory
Peoria 5, Illinois

Dear Dr. Wickerham:

I was very pleased to have a chance to talk with you during your recent visit, brief as it was, and am only sorry I was unable to hear your seminar too. At the time, I warned you that I might accept your offer of certain yeast strains, and would like to do so now.

I will divide my request into two parts: 1) we would be interested to look at the genetic behavior of *Hansenula* and *Dekkeroomyces* spp. if you can send us haploids of each mating type and the parent diploid. This would be, for us, primarily a matter of running through the life cycle for comparison with the material we are studying now, *Saccharomyces*. 2) Another man here that I believe you did not meet, Dr. Rotman, is interested in "long-term adaptation" and would like to look for it with regard to lactose fermentation. Have you noticed cultures that are rather slow to use lactose, that is, slow to begin to attack the sugar, but will finally ferment it at reasonable speed? Dr. Rotman would be interested to reexamine any material that falls in this category, whether it would be amenable to crossing analysis or not, though this would be helpful later.

Whatever background material (references or unpublished material) you can conveniently send along with the strains would be particularly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics